

## 48A C.J.S. Judges § 1

Corpus Juris Secundum | August 2023 Update

### Judges

Joseph Bassano, J.D.; Khara Singer-Mack, J.D.; Thomas Muskus, J.D.; Karl Oakes, J.D. and Jeffrey J. Shampo, J.D.

### I. In General

#### A. Definitions and Distinctions

##### 1. In General

### § 1. Justice

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#### West's Key Number Digest

West's Key Number Digest, [Judges](#)  1

**A justice is an officer appointed by proper authority to administer justice.**

A justice is an officer appointed by proper authority to administer justice.<sup>1</sup> He or she is a judicial officer, duly commissioned to hold court or try and decide controversies and administer the laws.<sup>2</sup> The word justice may properly be used interchangeably with judge,<sup>3</sup> but it is a word of broader signification.<sup>4</sup> Thus, it is broad enough to include the judge of any court in the state.<sup>5</sup> As used in some statutory provisions, the term may be construed as the equivalent of a justice of the peace.<sup>6</sup>

***Justices of the quorum.***

Justices of the quorum is a term anciently used in England to denote a select number of justices, one or more of whom were required to be present for the transaction of all business by other justices.<sup>7</sup>

***Police justice.***

The term police justice is used to designate a magistrate charged exclusively with the duties incident to the common law office of a conservator or justice of the peace.<sup>8</sup>

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**Footnotes**

- 1 Mo.—*State ex rel. Lafayette County v. O'Gorman*, 75 Mo. 370, 1882 WL 9617 (1882).  
As to the definition of chief justice, see § 4.  
As to definition of an associate justice, see § 5.
- 2 Ga.—*Strauss v. Maddox*, 109 Ga. 223, 34 S.E. 355 (1899).
- 3 Ga.—*Strauss v. Maddox*, 109 Ga. 223, 34 S.E. 355 (1899).  
As to definitions and distinctions with regard to the term judge, see §§ 7 to 10.
- 4 Ark.—*School Dist. No. 18 v. Grubbs Special School Dist.*, 184 Ark. 863, 43 S.W.2d 765 (1931).
- 5 Ark.—*School Dist. No. 18 v. Grubbs Special School Dist.*, 184 Ark. 863, 43 S.W.2d 765 (1931).
- 6 Vt.—*Hogle v. Mott*, 62 Vt. 255, 20 A. 276 (1890).
- 7 Colo.—*Snider v. Rinehart*, 18 Colo. 18, 31 P. 716 (1892).
- 8 N.D.—*McDermont v. Dinnie*, 6 N.D. 278, 69 N.W. 294 (1896).  
As to the definition of a police magistrate, see § 13.